

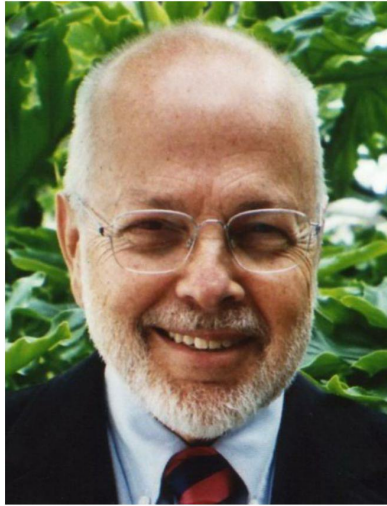
**MEDALS, ETC.**  
**C O M M E M -**  
**O R A T I N G**  
 **H A Y M**   
**S A L O M O N**  
**C O M P I L E D**  
**B Y M E L**  
**W A C K S**

**PUBLISHED BY THE**  
**JEWISH-AMERICAN**  
**HALL OF FAME©2026**



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## The Author



Mel Wacks founded the Jewish-American Hall of Fame at the Judah L. Magnes Museum in Berkeley, California in 1968, and has served as Director ever since. The Jewish-American Hall of Fame became a division of the American Jewish Historical Society in 2001, and established a permanent exhibit of its plaques at the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond, Virginia in 2010. The Jewish-American Hall of Fame's website [www.amuseum.org/jahf](http://www.amuseum.org/jahf) was inaugurated in 1996.

Mel has previously published numerous articles and three books: "Medals of the Jewish-American Hall of Fame 1969-2019" (2020), "The Handbook of Biblical Numismatics, 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition" (2021) – winner of the Shekel Prize, and "Who's Who in the Jewish-American Hall of Fame" (2022).

Mel commissioned medals honoring Haym Salomon, a key figure in financing the American Revolution, by Paul Vincze in 1973, celebrating America's Bicentennial, and by Eugene Daub in 2026, celebrating America's Semiquincentennial.

## Preface

“No one knows what Haym Salomon looked like. There was never a portrait, bust, sculpture or death mask made of him. Any representations of Haym Salomon are wishful, artistic expressions,” writes Jerry Klinger, president and founder of the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation.

In the early 1770's, Haym Salomon left his family in Poland and arrived in New York on the eve of the Revolution. His command of German made him welcome to the Hessian forces, which he served as a supplier of goods. When the British suspected him of spying, Salomon was arrested and confined to prison for a time.

Salomon's command of several languages enabled him to serve as a broker to the French officials in Philadelphia. Salomon prospered and was able to be financially helpful to a number of public figures, such as Alexander Hamilton and James Madison.

In August 1781, the Continental Army trapped Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis in the Virginia coastal town of Yorktown. George Washington and the main army, and Count de Rochambeau with his French army, decided to march from the Hudson Highlands to Yorktown and deliver the final blow. But Washington's war chest was completely empty, as was that of Congress. Without food, uniforms and supplies, Washington's troops were close to mutiny.

Washington determined that he needed at least \$20,000 to finance the campaign. When Morris told him there were no funds and no credit available, Washington said: “Send for Haym Salomon”. Salomon raised \$20,000, through the sale of bills of exchange. With that contribution, Washington conducted the Yorktown campaign, which proved to be the final battle of the Revolution.

In 1782, Madison acknowledged the “kindness of our little friend in Front Street, whose assistance will preserve me from extremities but I never resort to it without great mortification as he obstinately rejects all recompense.”

When Haym Salomon died prematurely in January 1785, he held \$353,000 — largely in depreciated certificates of indebtedness and continental currency — all virtually worthless. The Pennsylvania Packet wrote “He was remarkable for his skill and integrity in his profession and for his generous and humane deportment.”

Haym Salomon was a member of Mikveh Israel Congregation in Philadelphia, and made the largest single contribution to the erection of its first building in 1782. In 1784, he responded to a personal slander in the press by proclaiming: “I am a Jew; it is my own nation ... I do not despair ... that we shall obtain every other privilege that we aspire to enjoy along with our fellow-citizens.”

Bibliography: A paper by Dr. Samuel Rezneck, Professor Emeritus of History, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Wikipedia.



**1778**

**To the Honorable the Continental Congress**

***The Memorial of Haym Salomon late of the City of New York Merchant  
humbly sheweth***

***That your Memorialist was some time before the Entry of the British Troops [September 1776] at the said City of New York, and soon after taken up as a spy by General [James] Robertson [Commandant of New York] committed to the Provost [prison]. That by the interposition of Lieut. General [Hessian commander, Leopold Philip de] Heister (who wanted him on account of his knowledge in the French, Polish, Russian, Italian etc. languages) he was given over to the Hessian Commander who appointed him in the Commissary Way as Purveyor chiefly for the Officers. That being at New York he has been of great Service to the French & American prisoners and has assisted them with money and helped them oft to make their escape – That this and his close Connexion with such of the Hessian Officers as were inclined to resign and with Monsieur Samuel Demeres has rendered him at least so obnoxious to the British Head Quarters that he was already pursued by the Guards and on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> inst. he made his happy Escape from thence – This Monsieur Demeres is now most barbarously treated at the Provost's and is seemingly in danger of his life and the Memorialist begs leave to cause him to be remembered to Congress for an Exchange.***

***Your Memorialist has upon this event most irrecoverably lost all his effects and credits to the amount of five or six thousand Pounds Sterling and left his distressed wife and a child of a month old at New York waiting that they may soon have an opportunity to come out from thence with empty hands.***

***In these circumstances he most humbly prayeth to grant him any Employ in the way of his business where he may be enabled to support himself and family. And your Memorialist as in duty bound to be etc.***

***Haym Salomon***

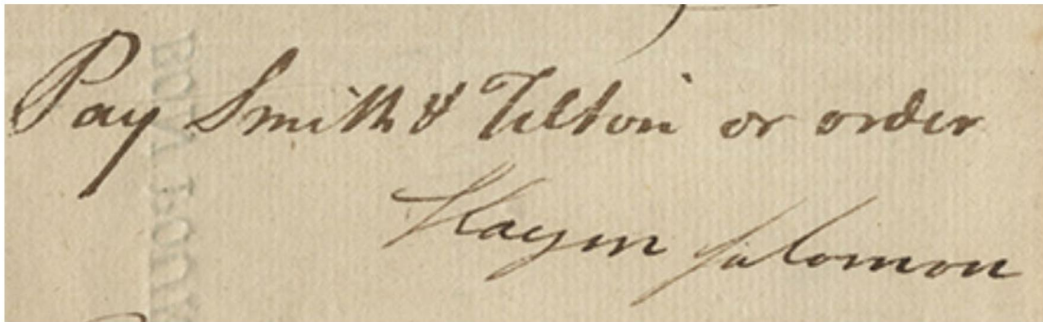
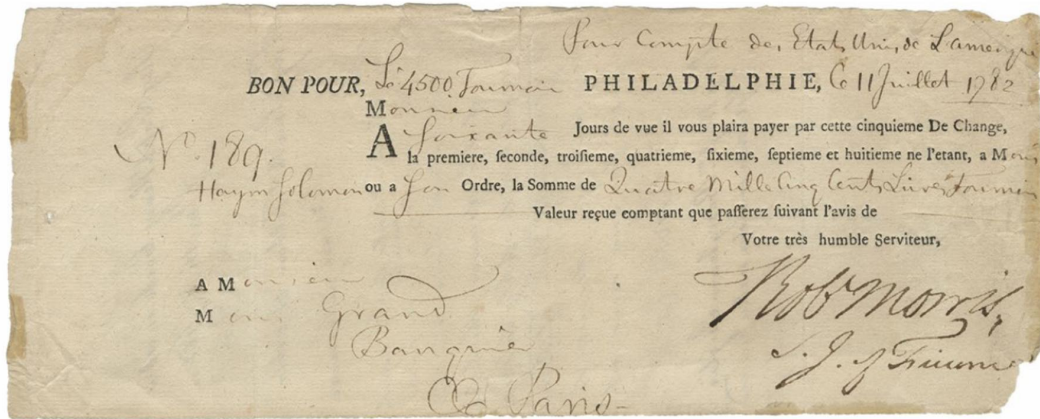
***Philadelphia August 25, 1778***

1782

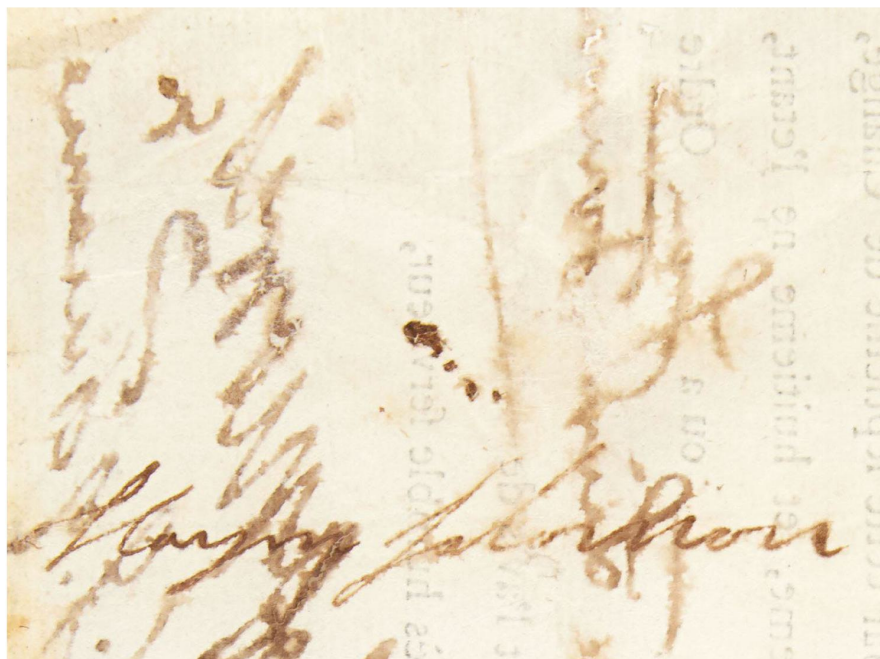
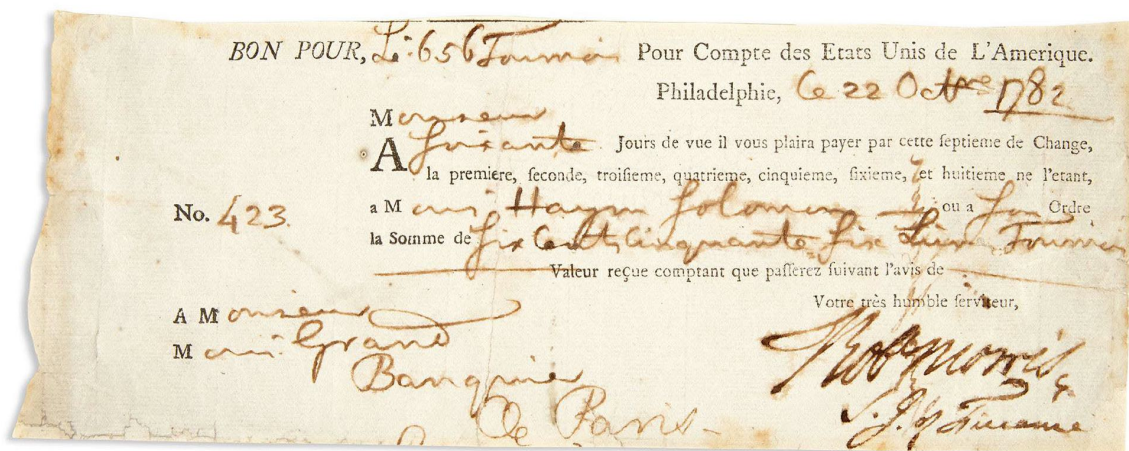
HAYM SALOMONS, Broker, at his  
OFFICE in Front-street, between  
Market and Arch streets, *buys* and *sells* BILLS  
of EXCHANGE on France or any other  
part of Europe, on Commission : Likewise  
all kinds of Merchandize.-----He also dis-  
counts Inland BILLS or DRAFTS, and has  
it often in his power to procure MONEY  
on LOAN for a short time.  
Any gentlemen who shall be pleased to  
favour him with their business, may depend  
on his utmost exertions for their interest.  
Part of the money advanced, if required.

Advertisement for Haym Salomon's brokerage services, located on Front Street in Philadelphia, as it appeared in *the Pennsylvania Evening Post and Public Advertiser* on April 9, 1782. Newspaper image courtesy of the Historical Newspaper Collection at Ancestry.com.

1782



Haym Salomon signed Revolutionary War document for funding Washington's troupes; also signed by Robert Morris. Dated July 11, 1782. This was up for sale for \$36,000 in 2025 by Seth Kaller, Inc.



**Haym Salomon's endorsing signature on check signed by Robert Morris.  
 October, 22 1782. Offered for sale by Doyle Auctioneers & Appraisers, April 17,  
 2019, estimated at \$20,000 - \$30,000.**



1783

| Date       | Discounters | Drawers               | in whose favor | payers                     |
|------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1783       |             |                       |                |                            |
| Feb 7. 13. | Jos. Jones  | Callender & Henderson | John Dawson    | J <sup>re</sup> Leary & Co |
| 27.        | do.         | H. Solomons           | J. Jones       | H. Solomons                |
| March 27.  | Col. Bland  | Wm. Young             | David Robt.    |                            |
|            | do.         | David Robt.           |                |                            |

This sheet from James Madison's ledger appears to be unique. Original records illustrating Salomon's contribution as a primary financier of the new republic are virtually nonexistent. Offered for \$50,000 by The Raab Collection.

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century



**Portrait of Sallie Salomon, daughter of Haym, early 19<sup>th</sup> century by unknown artist. In a private collection; photo courtesy of the John L. Loeb, Jr. Database of Early American Jewish Portraits.**



**On August 9, 1794, at age 15, Sallie Salomon married Joseph Andrews in New York. Sallie died in New York on July 29, 1845. Portrait by Frederick R. Spencer. In the collection of The Jewish Museum, New York. Photo courtesy of the John L. Loeb, Jr. Database of Early American Jewish Portraits**

1893

52D CONGRESS, } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { REPORT  
2d Session. } { No. 2556.

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GOLD MEDAL IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICES RENDERED BY HAYM  
SALOMON DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

FEBRUARY 24, 1893.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state  
of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CUMMINGS, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the  
following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 7896.]

The Committee on the Library, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7896), having for its object the striking of a gold medal in recognition of services rendered by Haym Salomon for advances of money made during the Revolutionary War, have had the same under consideration and respectfully report the bill back, as amended.

In the Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-seventh, and Thirty-eighth Congresses reports were made on this claim by various committees, and always in favor of paying what the United States undoubtedly justly owes, but it never passed both Houses. Consequently the heirs of Haym Salomon have finally abandoned the idea of ever expecting to receive the money that their ancestor so generously and kindly advanced, and in lieu thereof now ask that Congress should have a gold medal struck as an heirloom for the family, and in consideration of what the ancestor of the memorialist did at a time when it was all important to have such services for the benefit of the United States.

Your committee respectfully report that their request be granted; that a gold medal to the value of \$250 be struck by the United States Mint at Philadelphia, and that the same be presented by the Secretary of the Treasury to the lineal descendant and heir of the late Hoym Salomon.

To verify our recommendation and prove how just this claim is, we attach hereto copy of the reports made by various committees of the Senate of the United States. There can be no question that the heirs should be reimbursed; but as they seem to have caught the spirit of their ancestor and very generously waive their rights in the premises, it is the least that the Congress of the United States can do to testify in a public manner their high appreciation for the valuable and important services rendered by their ancestor.

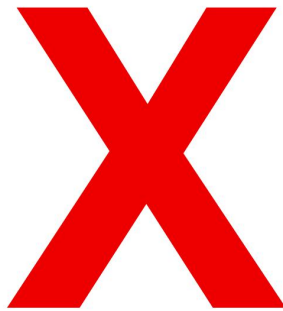
The Journal of the American Revolution (<https://allthingsliberty.com/2013/01/financial-hero/>) indicates the following:

“In 1893, the U. S. House of Representatives received a report from the Committee on the Library recommending that a gold medal be struck “in recognition of services rendered by Haym Salomon for advances of money made during the Revolutionary war.” The report stated that “the Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-seventh, and Thirty-eighth Congresses” received reports from various committees “always in favor of paying what the United States undoubtedly justly owes, but it never passed both Houses. Consequently the heirs of Haym Salomon have finally abandoned the idea of ever expecting to receive the money that their ancestor so generously and kindly advanced, and in lieu thereof now ask that Congress should have a gold medal struck as an heirloom for the family.”

“The report suggested that the medal would cost a mere \$250 and that the medal “is the least that the Congress of the United States can do” as recompense to the heirs. The report stated that “there can be no question that the heirs should be reimbursed; but they seem to have caught the spirit of their ancestor and very generously waive their rights... .” However, Congress failed to pass the bill to strike the gold medal. The claims of the family and interested parties continued on.”



# 1927

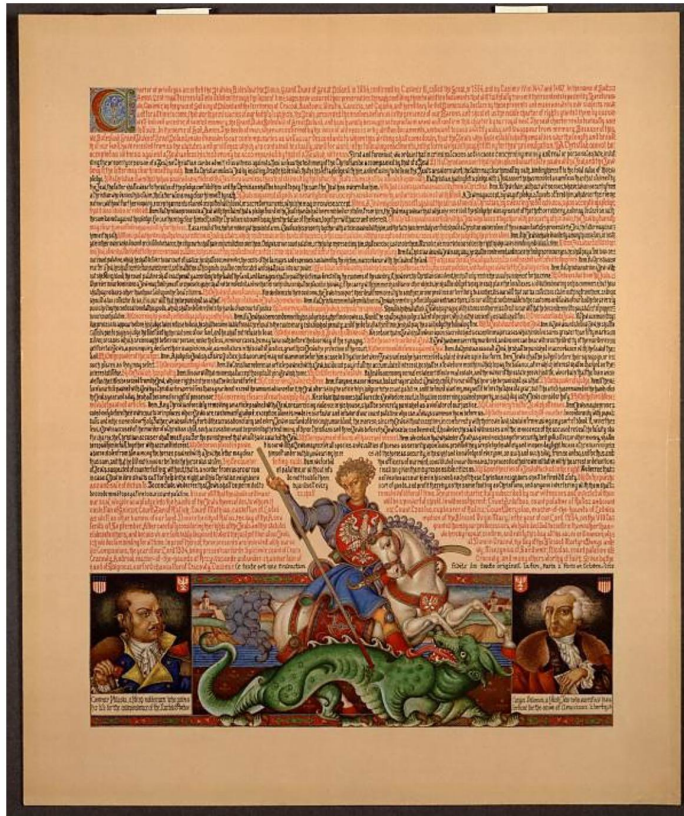


An attempt was made to erect a statue of Haym Salomon in New York City during the late 1920s and early 1930s, but it ultimately failed. In 1927, New York City rejected an offer by a Jewish immigrant group to build a statue of Salomon in Madison Square Park, citing an assessment that he was merely a mercenary and not a true believer in the American cause. Additionally, infighting between Polish and German Jews in the city is believed to have contributed to the plan being abandoned.

Time Magazine (August 1, 1927) wrote:

Chairman Robert W. De Forest of the Municipal Art Commission said that the refusal to approve the statue was based upon dissatisfaction with the site (Madison Square), and that the decision was without prejudice to the selection of another site, but Jews were not satisfied with the implied suggestion that their hero might be remembered in some less conspicuous portion of Manhattan. Mr. DeWitt M. Lockman, artist and member of the Art Commission, suggested that an excellent compromise would be a general memorial "of an allegorical nature" to all the Jews who helped in the Revolution. Mr. Z. Tygel, Secretary of the Federation of Polish Jews, who were raising \$75,000 for the Salomon statue, maintained that Mr. Salomon was unfairly being denied due recognition.

1928



### Haym Salomon by Arthur Syzk. Courtesy of Library of Congress.

In 1928, Polish artist Arthur Syzk created this illustration of the Statute of Kalisz, which affirmed the civil rights of Polish Jews in 1264. In it, he flanked St. George slaying the dragon—a symbol of the eternal struggle between good and evil—with portraits of Casimir Pulaski and Haym Salomon, who symbolized for Syzk and other Poles how human rights could be achieved by people of conviction and courage.

**1930s**



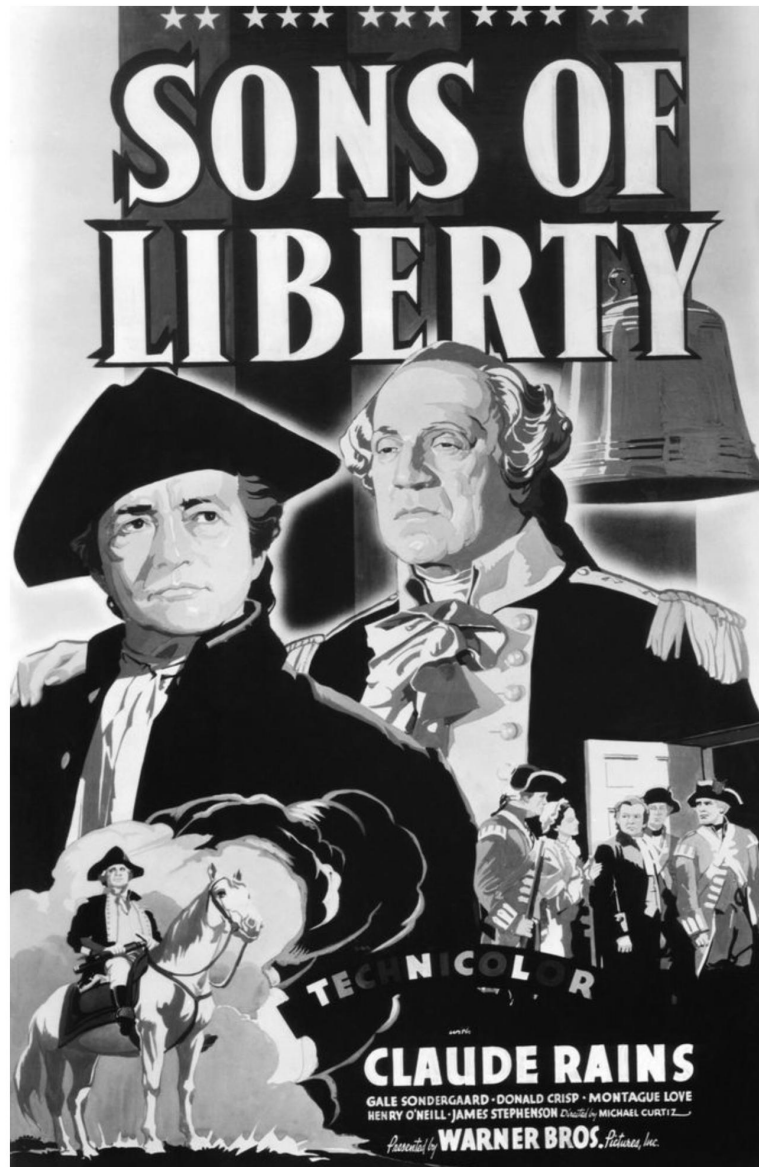
**Haym Salomon portrait, ca. 1930s. Unknown artist.  
Photo courtesy of Christian Heritage Ministries.**

**1930s**



**Haym Salomon portrait commissioned by the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, ca. 1930s. Unknown artist. Courtesy of The National Archives.**

1939



Starring Oscar-nominated actor Claude Rains, the two-reel short film, *Sons of Liberty*, about the contribution of Haym Salomon to the Revolutionary War effort won the 1940 Academy Award for Best Short Subject, Two-Reel. From *The Film Daily*, April-June 1939, courtesy of The Media History Digital Library.

See movie at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usu1aAdZkrs>



**1941**



**Bronze sculpture group in Herald Square in Chicago, located at Wacker Drive and Wabash Avenue, depicts George Washington flanked by Haym Salomon (right) and Robert Morris(left). Designed by Lorado Taft and completed by his associates.**

The inscription on the statue reads: Symbol of American Tolerance and Unity and of the Cooperation of People of All Races and Creeds in the Upbuilding of the United States. / This monument designed by Lorado Taft and completed / by Leonard Crunelle was presented to the city of / Chicago by the Patriotic Foundation of Chicago (followed by list of names) Dedicated on the 150th Anniversary of the Ratification of the American Bill of Rights / December 15, 1941. On plaque on middle step of base is inscribed: Rededicated by American Mason Heritage Council October 6th 1962. On the front of the base: Robert Morris . George Washington . Haym Salomon / The government of the United States / which gives to bigotry no sanction to the persecution / no assistance requires only that they who live under/its protection should demean themselves as good citizens / in giving it on all occasions their effectual support / President George Washington 1790.

**1943**



**In World War II, the United States ten-thousand ton Liberty Ship SS *Haym Salomon* was launched on May 17, 1943 at the Fairfield Yards of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation. It was sold for private use in 1947 and scrapped in 1971. Photo courtesy of Hagley Museum and Library, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807.**

A Liberty Ship was a type of cargo ship built in large numbers by the United States during World War II. They were designed for quick and inexpensive construction using assembly-line methods, making them a vital part of the Allied effort to supply troops and resources across the Atlantic and Pacific. Over 2,700 were built, making them the largest class of ships ever constructed.



**1944**



**A 13-foot tall concrete statue of Haym Salomon can now be found on the corner of Third and Gardner streets in Pan Pacific Park, Los Angeles. This statue has been moved multiple times, having been initially dedicated in Hollenbeck Park in 1944. Sculpted by Robert Paine for the Haym Salomon Day Committee.**

**1950**



**David Hearst accepts First Annual Haym Salomon Award for his father William Randolph Hearst from George Jessel. The Haym Salomon Award is considered the ADL's most prestigious accolade, acknowledging outstanding service and dedication to the organization's principles**



1956



Haym Salomon Sons of Liberty Cartoon Page



1959



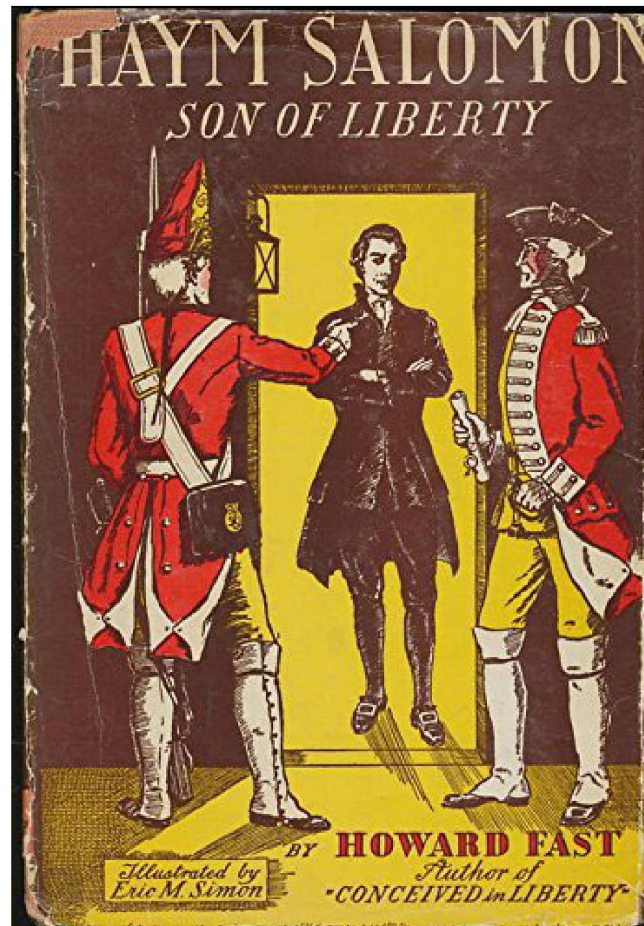
Pictured above: Elkins Park, PA. Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel. Neumann Chapel, 1960. Stained glass window detail, "Proclaim Liberty." By William Haley and the Rambusch Company. Photo: Samuel D. Gruber 2019. USA: A 1960 Stained Glass Cycle at Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park, PA

**1950s**



**Solomon and the American Revolution by Frank Reilly (1906-1967).  
Courtesy of The Illustrated Gallery.**

1961



"Haym Salomon, Son of Liberty" by Howard Fast,  
illustrated by Eric Simon.



**1971**



**1971, Haym Salomon commemorative in the Medallion Series of the Jews in America, designed by Karen Worth. 38mm. Photo courtesy of Dr. Ira Rezak.**

**1973**



**Haym Salomon medal designed by Paul Vincze, issue by the Jewish-American Hall of Fame to commemorate America's Bicentennial. 58mm.**

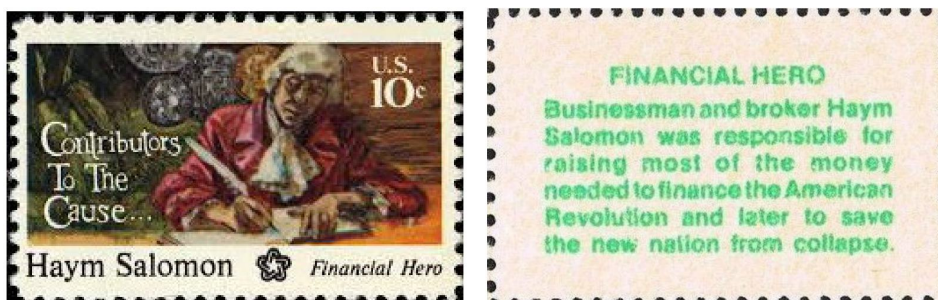


1975



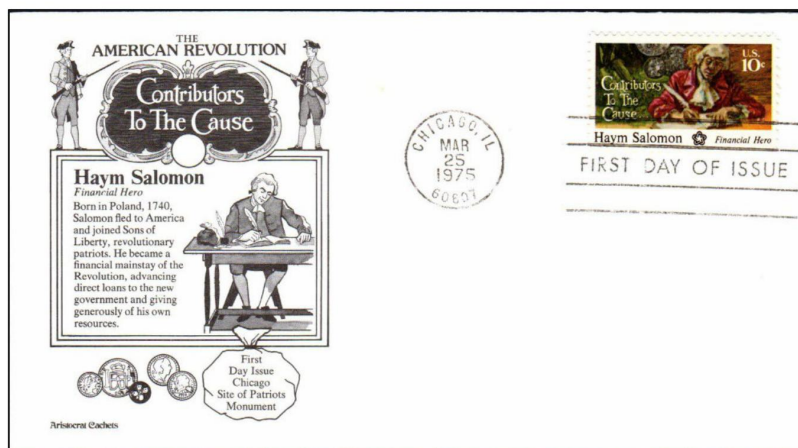
Haym Salomon Philatelic Numismatic Cover, issued by the Jewish-American Hall of Fame, cancelled on stamp's first day of issue (March 25, 1975).

1975



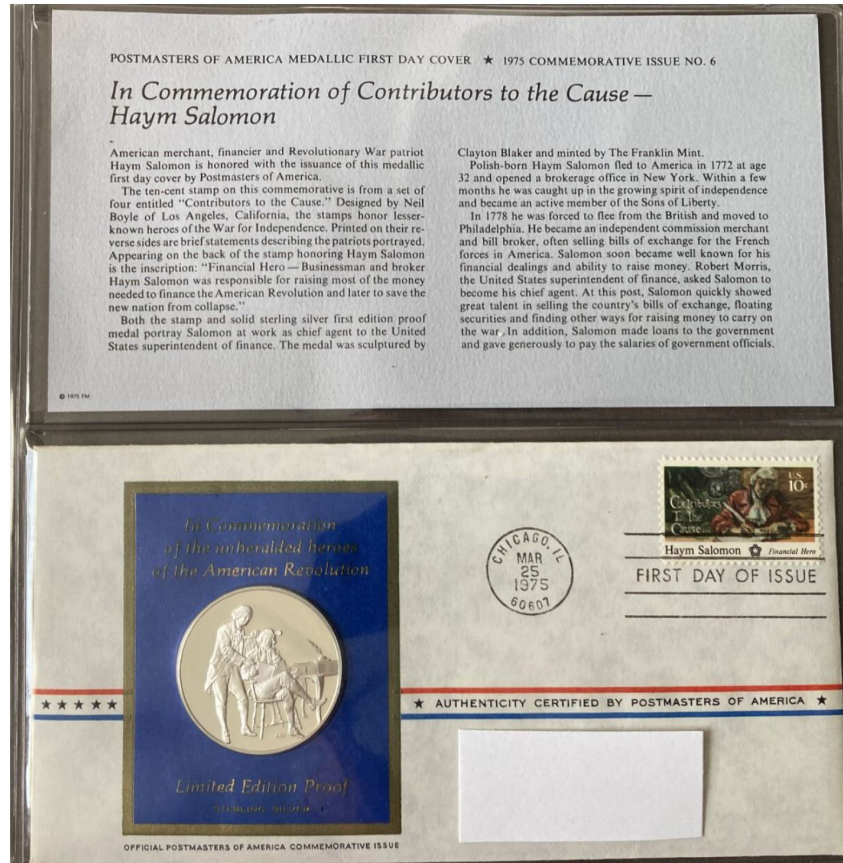
The Haym Salomon stamp, US Scott #1561, was designed by Bill Hyde. The verso, the glue side, says: "Businessman and broker Haym Salomon was responsible for raising most of the money needed to finance the American Revolution and later to save the new nation from collapse."

1975



Many different caches were used on First Day Cover envelopes, when the Haym Salomon stamps were issued on March 25, 1975.

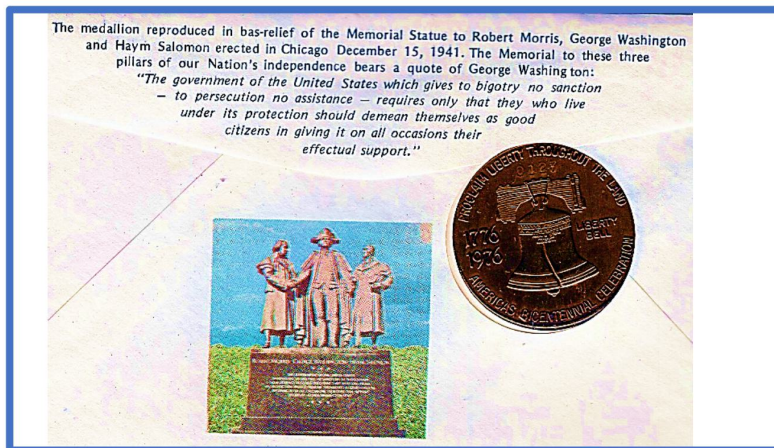
1975



Postmasters of America .925 sterling silver Haym Salomon medal. with designer's initials "cb." 38mm.



1976



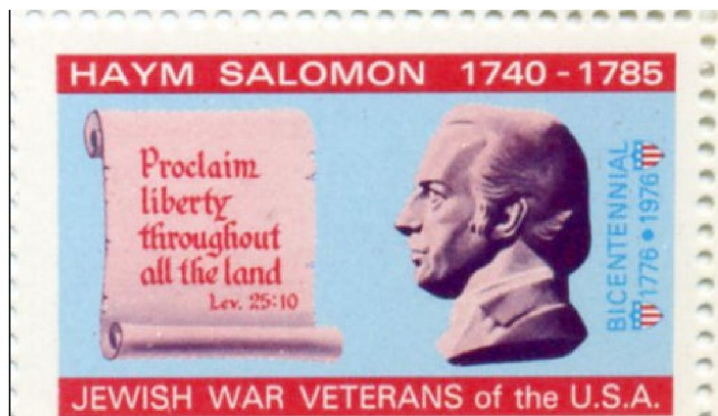
American Bi-Centennial State of Israel medal. 38mm.

**1976**



**Haym Salomon medal by unknown artist. 45mm.**

**1976**



**Haym Salomon “stamp” issued by the Jewish War Veterans.**



1976



**Erected by Haym Solomon Lodge 663, Brith Sholom,  
at the Mikveh Israel cemetery in Philadelphia.**

Haym Salomon was buried at Mikveh Israel Cemetery in Philadelphia in an unmarked grave as there was no money for a headstone.

The obituary printed in the Independent Gazetteer read: "Thursday, last, expired, after a lingering illness, Mr. Hyam Salomon, an eminent broker of this city, was a native of Poland, and of the Hebrew nation. He was remarkable for his skill and integrity in his profession, and for his generous and humane deportment. His remains were yesterday deposited in the burial ground of the synagogue of this city."



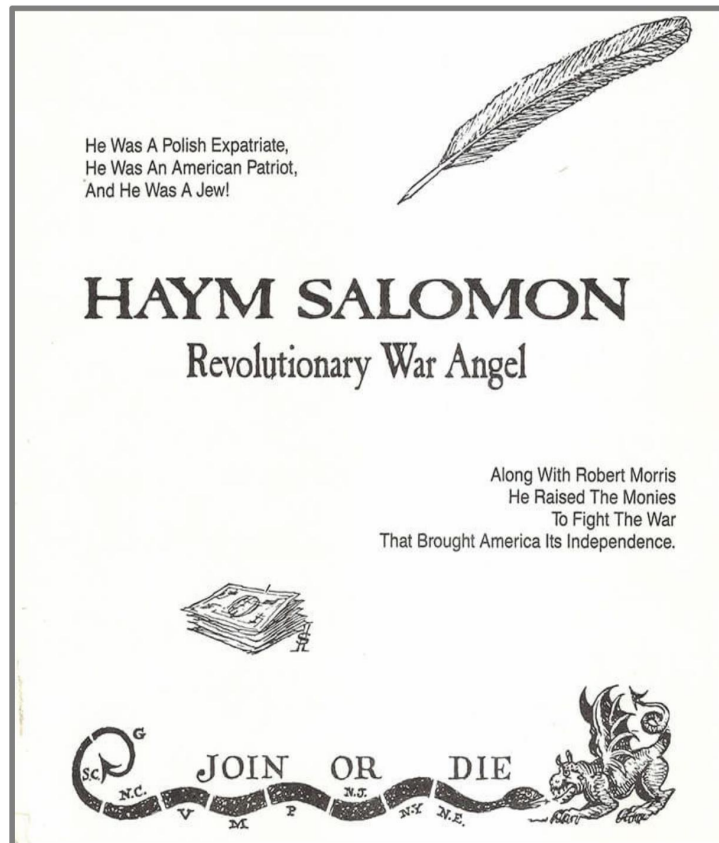
1976



**Haym Salomon Square in Queens, New York City, 72nd Road &, Vleigh Pl, Kew Gardens Hills. Dedicated on June 27, 1976. Donated by Nat and Maxwell Dorr Post No. 793, Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America.**

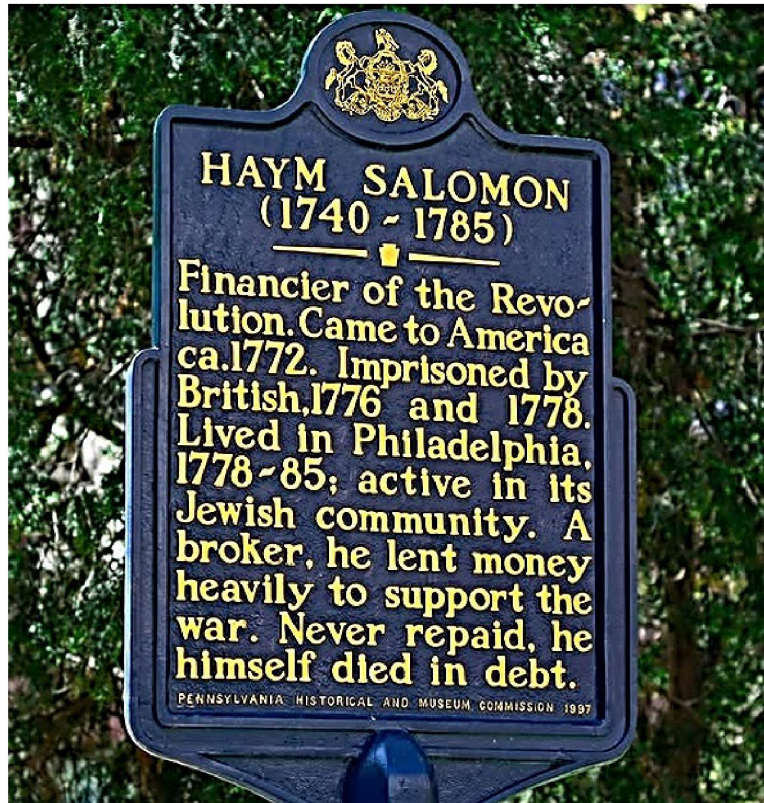
**Inscription: THIS PLAQUE IS DEDICATED TO HAYM SALOMON IN RECOGNITION OF HIS TIRELESS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY. SALOMON A POLISH JEWISH IMMIGRANT, WAS SO IMBUEW WITH THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM, HE, WITHOUT MUCH ASSISTANCE, FINANCED THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR BY HIS INEXHAUSTIBLE FUND-RAISING. THROUGH HIS HEALTH WAS RUINED DURING HIS IMPRISONMENT BY THE BRITISH, SALOMON'S FAITH IN JUDAISM NEVER FALTERED, NOR DID HIS BELIEF IN THE GREATNESS OF OUR COUNTRY. WHILE HE RAISED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FOR THE WAR EFFORT, SALOMON, IRONICALLY, DIED PENNILESS. APPROXIMATELY 100 YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH, HAYM SALOMON WAS FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE UNITED STATES FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY PATRIOTISM.**

1993



One act play written by Isaak Dostis of Act1 Presentations,  
Ioannina, Epirus 45221, Greece.

1997



Plaque at Mikveh Israel cemetery in Philadelphia, erected by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.



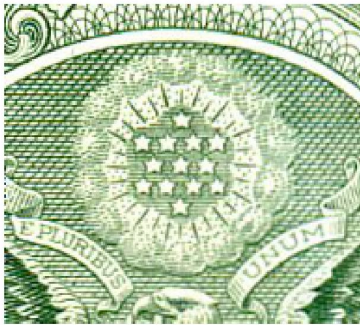
2004



**“For God and Country,” bronze, silver and gold-plated silver medals. 63.5mm. Also 22mm. silver and gold medals. Commissioned by James Arcuri, Mainstay Films.**

In the book “For God and Country,” author James Arcuri admittedly combined facts, myths and legends to tell how Haym Salomon supposedly helped to design the Great Seal of the United States— that features 13 stars, representing the original 13 states, in the formation of a six-pointed Star of David. Though this is probably a *bubba meister* (Yiddish for “an old wives tale”).

The historic facts indicate that the first description of the Great Seal did not specify whether the individual stars were to have five or six points -- and the stars were arranged randomly. The star-formation on the first Great Seal was designed and described by Charles Thomson in 1782 (during the lifetime of Haym Salomon) as: “Over the head of the Eagle a Constellation of Stars surrounded with bright rays and at a little distance clouds.” However, when the die was first used on September 16, 1782, the stars formed a Star of David! So, while no one knows for sure, it was possible for George Washington to honor the “Financial Hero” of the American Revolution by using the Jewish symbol on the Great Seal. You can contemplate on this whenever you view the Great Seal on the back of a dollar bill.

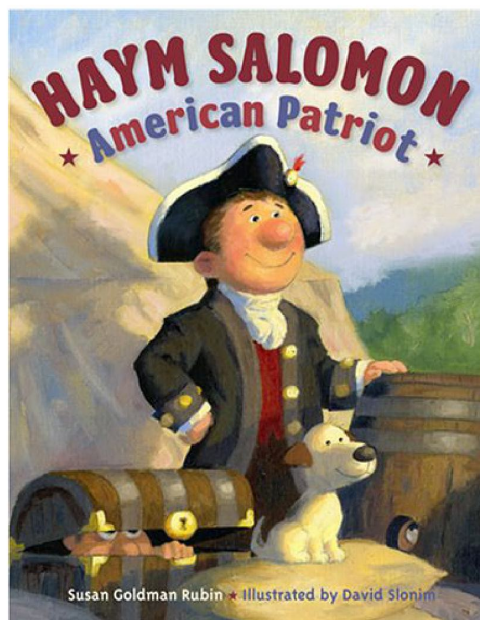


**2006**



**Medal of Excellence, commissioned by the FEGS (Federation Employment and Guidance Service) Haym Salomon Division of the Arts. Bronze, 63.5mm.**

**2007**



**“Haym Salomon America Patriot” children’s book by Susan Goldman Rubin, illustrated by David Slonim.**

2010



Haym Salomon plaque in the Jewish-American Hall of Fame exhibit at the Virginia Holocaust Museum, Richmond, installed in 2010.



**2012**

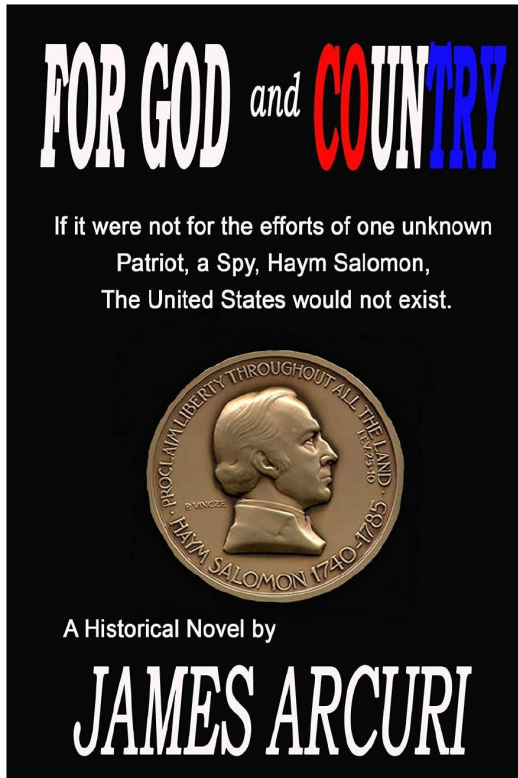


**Commissioned by Mikveh Israel Congregation (Philadelphia). Reverse by Frank Gasparro. Antique bronze and prooflike gold-plated bronze with ribbon. 76mm.**

**2014**



**L-R: Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director; Jeff and Mei Sze Greene, Haym Salomon Award Recipients; and Barry Curtiss-Lusher, ADL National Chair.**



**2018**

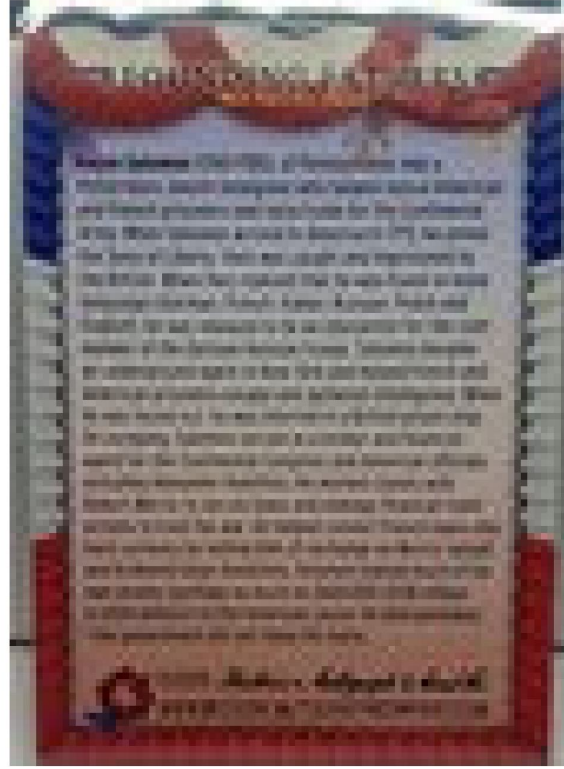
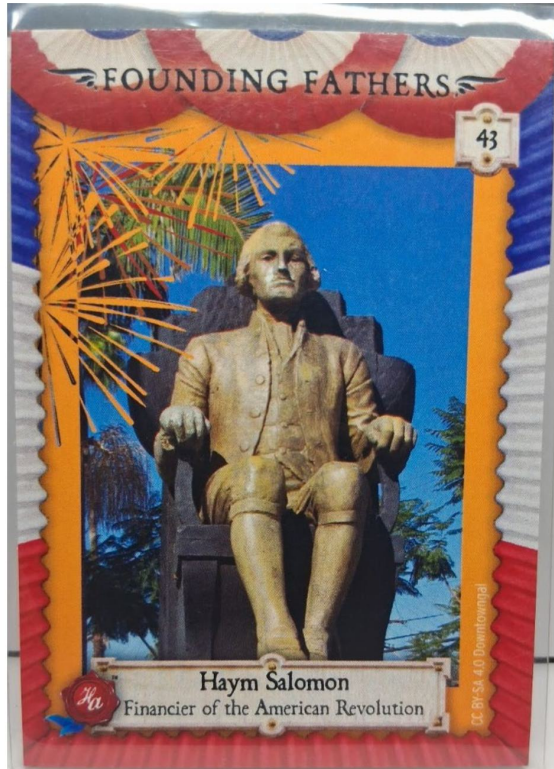
**“For God and Country” by James Arcuri, featuring Jewish-American Hall of Fame medal by Paul Vincze.**

**2022**



**Haym Salomon and George Washington. Ht. 30 ½", W. 35", D. 6 5/8", carved and painted lindenwood by Marshall Rumbaugh.**

2025



This is a 2025 Historic Autographs Founding Fathers trading card featuring Haym Salomon, part of a limited 27/32 print run. This non-sport trading card is part of the new year's eve edition, with an orange parallel variety. Manufactured by Historic Autographs, LLC, the card is made of card stock and includes features such as being serial numbered and an insert in the set. The card is in English and showcases Haym Salomon as the featured person, tying into themes of war, politics, history, and military significance.



2026



**"Send for Haym Salomon" bonded bronze medal by Eugene Daub, issued by the Jewish-American Hall of Fame to commemorate America's Semiquincentennial. 79 x 79mm. Photo by Eugene Daub.**

In 1781, as Washington was preparing for the Battle of Yorktown, there was no money to pay the soldiers who were near mutiny. Washington said, "Send for Haym Salomon!" Salomon raised \$20,000 in coin, the soldiers were paid, and the Continental Army won the decisive battle. Salomon was never repaid the loans he made and died in debt at the age of 44 in 1785.

## Addendum



The Haym Salomon Nursing Home is a long-term nursing home and short-term medical rehabilitation facility located in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, at 2340 Cropsey Avenue.



The Haym Salomon Memorial Park and Community Mausoleum is located at 200 Moores Rd, Malvern, PA 19355.



**Haym Salomon Jewish Community Center,  
Venice, California**



## Defunct

### The Haym Salomon Lodge of Brith Shalom



**According to the *Jewish Communal Register of New York City, 1917-1918*, in that year, Brith Sholom had 378 lodges nationwide that included 52,596 members. Just one lodge survives today.**

President Ford, in a letter to the Haym Salomon Lodge of Brith Shalom in Philadelphia, praised the contributions of Haym Salomon who helped finance the American Revolution. The lodge and the George Washington Scottish Rite bodies in association with Philadelphia 76 memorialized Salomon on Sunday, the anniversary of his death in 1785.

Ford's message said: "As we lay the cornerstone of America's third century, it is most appropriate that we pay tribute to the very special part played by Haym Salomon in the success of our initial efforts. I am pleased to join with the members of the Haym Salomon Lodge No. 663. Brith Shalom, in memorializing his dedication to America."

## Haym Salomon Center



**HAYM  
SALOMON  
CENTER**

A NEWS AND PUBLIC POLICY GROUP

**For 10 years, starting in 2015, the Haym Salomon Center in Northbrook, Illinois grew from a two-person startup to a team of reporters and Fellows producing news and opinion content from a pro-Western, pro-democracy viewpoint for publication in the mainstream and new media outlets. Their work combating anti-Semitism, Islamic terrorism and defending Western values, was published everywhere from USA Today and the New York Daily News to Fox News, The Hill and the Wall Street Journal.**



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